

Appl. No. 09/832,685  
Amdt. dated 10/31/2003  
Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

PATENT

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

A request for continued examination (RCE) is being filed herewith.

Claims 33-38, 40, 48-58, and 60-61 are pending in the present patent application.

Claim 58 has been amended. Support for the amended claim can be found in the specification.

No new matter has been added to the amended claim. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The office action indicated that claims 33-38, 40, 48-57, and 60-61 contain allowable subject matter.

**Prior Art Rejection of Claim 58**

The office action rejected claim 58 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,686,396 to Law et al.

Claim 58 has been amended to address this rejection. Specifically, claim 58 has been amended to recite "programmable logic integrated circuit." Law et al. does not disclose or suggest that the bus driver is a programmable logic integrated circuit.

In addition, claim 58 has been amended to recite first and second logic elements that are "configurable to implement combinatorial functions."

The office action pointed to inverter circuit 32 as the first logic element of claim 58. Inverter circuit 32 in Law et al. is not configurable to implement combinatorial functions, per amended claim 58.

The office action stated that the logic circuit that generates NCLK or MO1/MO2 are the second logic circuit. Law et al. does not disclose or suggest that any of these circuits are configurable to implement combinatorial functions, per amended claim 58.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 58 is novel and nonobvious over Law et al.

Appl. No. 09/832,685  
Amdt. dated 10/31/2003  
Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

PATENT

**Double Patenting Rejections**

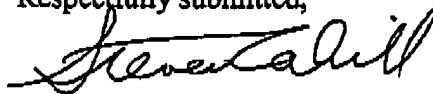
Claims 33-38, 40, 48-58, and 60-61 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-48 of United States patent number 6,239,613. Applicants request that this rejection be held in abeyance until all of the claims are otherwise allowable.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Cahill  
Reg. No. 44,578

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 415-576-0300  
60062013 v1